

"The Gold of that Land is good."

T. A. HAND, Publisher.

AGENTS.—William J. Osborn, Tucson; Charles A. Phillips, La Paz; A. M. Hunt, Santa Fe; L. Dukes & Co., Ft. Mohave; William H. Tobey, San Francisco.

THE CURRENCY.

We have watched with interest the movements in California and Nevada towards the adoption of the legal tender currency, inasmuch as their action, particular that of California, will be the precedent for this Territory. We are glad to notice that the leading journals, both of California and Nevada, are beginning to see that in refusing to accept the paper currency, as a necessity of the times, the people of the Pacific coast have most unwisely arrayed themselves against an inflexible law, and as a consequence have paid the penalty of folly. The result is seen in the general depression extending through every department of trade, poisoning every branch of industry, and threatening financial ruin.

It is not to be disguised, that as a general rule, coin as a circulating medium and basis of trade, is far preferable to paper, and for the very apparent reason that it is the adopted standard of value, to which all things must conform. But true and just as this maxim is generally, it utterly fails at this juncture of our financial affairs, for the reason that in no State in this Union, except California, is it now made the basis of trade, but on the contrary, it is driven wholly out of circulation, and become a mere article of merchandise—bought and sold as are our many stocks—uncertain and fluctuating in its price—now inflated, now depressed, as the tricks and devices of Wall Street gamblers are more or less successful.

Nor is it at all surprising that in this crisis—in view of the financial events that have transpired, and are now transpiring—coin should cease to be a medium of circulation. Its withdrawal is the inevitable sequence of the unprecedented issue of treasury notes, demanded and necessitated by the exigencies of the war—a necessity which has created an overwhelming necessity—a small inconvenience growing out of a wise, just and indispensable act, as suffering sometimes results from the Providence of God.

The San Jose Mercury, one of the foremost of California papers, speaks in this wise:

Judging from the unprecedented prosperity of every Free State, except those which have rigidly adhered to a specie basis, we infer that the people of this coast have made a great mistake. In the east, the embarrassments resulting from an expanded and depreciated currency have been more than counterbalanced by actual benefits. The business of the country has been steadily augmenting, and the greatest activity prevails throughout all branches of manufacture, agriculture, trade, and commerce. To them a uniform medium of exchange has proved one of the greatest blessings.

While the unwritten laws of commerce have made, and will continue to make, gold the standard of money valuation in the dealings of one nation with another, it does not necessarily follow that it should be the standard of value in the domestic dealings of the people of one nation. In fact, we think it can be shown that the appreciation of gold in the time of war is an actual benefit and blessing to the nation thus engaged in war; because, it renders importations difficult, and forces the nation to rely on its own resources, thereby teaching the people lessons of economy and industry.

One of the chief obstacles in the way of the realization of the full benefits which might have been made to result from our system of currency, is the obstinacy with which the gold producing states have adhered to a metallic basis. With our treasure as a merchantable commodity, and with many millions of Government paper in circulation, as the basis of all monied transactions, we of the Pacific coast would have been doubly rich. There would have been none of that uncertainty and want of confidence which now prevails throughout business circles. Capital in abundance would seek investment. We should be more thoroughly identified with the Union. The great mass of the people would not trouble their heads about the fluctuations of gold. And when they ceased to do that, gold would naturally seek its level with the currency of the nation, which is based on everything of value within the entire borders of the Government.

It is held that gold and silver have an intrinsic value, in themselves, recognized by the whole world. So also have lands and houses and property of every other description. The legal tenders of the nation are representatives of value, as real and tangible as gold itself. This proposition needs no argument. The people alone are to blame for the depreciation of the currency;

and if we of the gold-bearing states are made the especial sufferers, in consequence of such depreciation, we have less reason for complaint, for we have brought our sufferings upon our own heads.

The Carson (Nevada) Independent, an able journal, makes the following telling argument:

There is scarcely an article within the range of consumption—certainly none produced within the State of California—that could not be bought for greenbacks in New York, cheaper by the freight and charges taxed for its delivery, than for gold in San Francisco, thus securing to the importer and taxing the consumer with the unprecedented rate of one hundred and fifty per cent—the present difference between the currencies—a tax no people on earth can stand—a tax that is making even this great country reel and stagger like an overburdened giant.

This condition of things must continue so long as we defy the laws of trade, by adhering to a currency long discontinued by more than nineteen twentieths of the people with whom we have commercial intercourse—of whom we form a part—whose laws are our laws, and whose destiny is our destiny. So long as we reject the currency offered us by Congress, having its origin in the inexorable necessity of the times—so long as we consent to remain the dupes and victims of gold speculators on the one hand, and dishonest debtors on the other, just so long will the evils by which we are surrounded continue to exist.

The remedy is to be found in conforming to the laws of trade and the adoption of the currency in general use throughout the nation, as the basis of our ordinary business transactions.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Elsewhere we refer to the organization of the Legislature. That body is now in daily session, and has thus far worked with diligence and harmony. Hon. Coles, Bashford, (Ex-Governor of Wisconsin, and Attorney General of the Territory.) President of the Council, has had much Legislative experience, and the same may be said of General W. Claude Jones, the Speaker of the House. Under such presiding officers, the wheels will move smoothly. Indeed we believe the members have met with a determination to bury personal feeling and prejudice in united action for the best interests of the whole Territory. If they will treat the various important and difficult questions brought to their consideration in this spirit, the people will have cause for satisfaction.

On Friday last the Governor delivered his message to the houses in joint session. As the first document of the kind put forth in the Territory, it will be received with interest and we believe with approval. We regret that our columns will not admit of its publication, a matter of less consequence inasmuch as it has already been printed in pamphlet form at the MINER office, and extensively circulated. The message is characteristic of our Governor, straight-forward, independent, fearless, and abounding in strong sense. There is neither an obscurity of words nor ideas, nor is there any attempt at fine writing.

An entire and radical change in the New Mexican statutes, now governing, is suggested, but it is recommended that only such changes as are absolutely necessary be made in the ordinary course of legislation, and that the general provisions be suffered to remain in force until a complete and consistent code of laws, congenial to our habits and tastes, and adapted to our wants, can be prepared and adopted.

Such changes as seem to be at once demanded, and such enactments as the organic law and our peculiar condition require are named. Among these is the immediate abrogation of peonage, which is declared "equally a disgrace and a reproach to the peon, and to the other citizens of the State whose equal by law the peon is made—an obstacle to education and a bar to progress." It is also proposed that the provision of the New Mexican law which provides that a debtor in arrest may be detained in prison for five days before he can be permitted to take the poor debtor's oath, shall be abolished, and that the debtor, upon instituting proper proceedings, be admitted to an immediate examination, and if permitted to take the poor debtor's oath be discharged at once.

It is recommended that young captives taken from the Apaches be regularly apprenticed upon the system existing in most of the States. It is proposed for the present that three counties be constructed, and but few officers appointed. Careful attention to the provisions for the government of counties and towns is urged. "If their affairs are promptly and economically administered the foundation of good government is secured."

The following suggestions are worthy of especial consideration:

The proceeds of all dividend paying mines can be taxed without obstructing the development of the country, and a license and tax should be required from foreign miners. I also suggest that hereafter the discoverers of mines which are taken up and recorded be required to locate next to the discovery claim one claim

which shall be the property of the territory. I further recommend that a large proportion of the money realized from taxing the mining interest be set apart as a fund for raising, arming and supporting in the field companies of citizens, organized as rangers, to operate against the hostile Apaches, until the last one is subdued. It will be necessary to adopt a militia system, by which an organization can be perfected as our population increases. Companies of rangers are the only force that can at present be made effective, and an Adjutant General, who may also be Acting Quartermaster General, is the only officer requiring to be compensated.

The legislature and the Governor are also required to locate the permanent capital of the territory. Your superior knowledge of the territory and of the wishes and interests of the people will enable you to determine that question satisfactorily. I can only urge that no considerations of local advantage, or sectional feeling and jealousy, should be suffered to control a question of so great public importance, but that a point should be selected which will become the centre of population, and aid the development of the Territory.

The claims and advantages of the different sites should be carefully weighed, and a location be made that will not require an immediate change. The advantages to the territory of a permanent settlement of this question are too obvious to require enumeration.

A system of common schools is proposed, and it is recommended that the necessary steps be taken to comply with the conditions of the act of July 2, 1862, for the establishment of an agricultural college in every State and Territory.

The following merited compliment is paid to the school at San Xavier:

The only school that I have visited in the Territory, though doubtless there are others, is one at the old Mission church of San Xavier. If any such institution be recognized by an endowment, I suggest that some aid be given to this school. A small donation at this time would materially assist an ancient and most laudable charity of the church to which a large proportion of our people belong, and would encourage it in preserving one of the most beautiful remnants of art on the continent.

The mineral wealth, "the most extensive and important interest of the Territory," is alluded to at length, the Pacific Rail Road is advocated, vigorous action against the Apaches is proposed, and a bright future is pictured for the country. We must defer remark upon these topics until our next, and conclude for to-day with the reiteration of our opinion that the message will be hailed as a valuable and timely document, and that it will add to the Governor's reputation both at home and abroad.

STRANGE CHARGES.

Judge Allyn has seen fit to print his charges to the United States and Territorial Grand Juries, delivered in this place, on the 27th ult., in pamphlet form. The proceeding is unusual, and we have attentively read the charges without discerning why the Judge has been to such expense. We find no new points of law, no novel suggestions, no striking conclusions in either of the charges. That to the United States jury treats chiefly of the crime of treason and of the Indians upon the Colorado river, who are pronounced "the worthiest objects of the protecting and fostering care of the government." Topics of importance, but upon which no new light is thrown. The charge to the territorial jury is a model of bad English and wholesale inaccuracy. It is a pity that for the Judge's reputation some prudent friend did not prevent its publication.

The Judge begins by wishing the Chief Justice were here properly to instruct the grand jury in the discharge of their duties. A wish in which the jury must have heartily concurred, in view of the remarkable paper presented to them. As the document is before the people we will only call attention to a passage or two.

If our readers can make either law, grammar or common sense out of the following paragraph, they can do more than is in our power:

Offences against the community, in the division I have adopted, are those in which all suffer a wrong, like mal-administration or corruption in office, where as it is where one man or set of men preys under the forms of law upon all other men, it is not alone the loss the community experiences of the sums stolen or misappropriated to enrich the few, that belong to all, but it is the blow thus struck at government itself, at social order, by undermining the confidence of the community in the honesty of disbursing officers, and of executive action, and in the purity of the judiciary, makes this class of crimes the most dangerous to a free people.

Will some one interpret to us the following?

This territory has just passed through its first election, an election as far as I know that did not generally provoke much discussion or any great party excitement; in the portion of the territory where I happened to be but few persons voted at all; and yet I cannot shut my ears to the universal talk of fraud and corruption that fills the air, if one were to credit what is the open talk of the street, voters are as much in

the market here as feet or town lots; a residence in California was required by the organic act as one of the qualifications of our electors, and returns change with the facility of the chameleon while in transmission from the place of voting to the capital.

If this jargon means anything, it is strictly erroneous from first to last. The election did provoke discussion and excitement, very much of both. The "universal talk of fraud and corruption" is new to us, and our opportunities for hearing the expressions of popular sentiment are at least as good as those enjoyed by Judge Allyn. Saving on the part of one or two bitterly disappointed candidates for office, who stopped at nothing in order to get votes, we have heard of no charge of fraud or corruption, and the have only alleged the same as having occurred in the Judge's own district, (the Second) with which the jury had of course no acquaintance and no business. If by the obscure assertion that, "a residence in California was required by the organic act as one of the qualifications of our electors," it is meant that any number of Californians voted at the election, we brand the insinuation as wholly unwarrantable. The charge that the returns changed "with the facility of the chameleon while in transmission from the place of voting to the capital," we believe to be equally incorrect. It is a serious imputation upon the integrity of the election judges and clerks, and the probate judges, which they will not be slow to resent. Moreover, it is an insult to the whole people, and an attempt to injure our fair Territory abroad on the part of one who should, by virtue of his position, if from no higher motive, be accurate, impartial and cautious in his assertions.

Judge Allyn will, we think, have cause to regret the circulation of his pamphlet. His charges have neither literary nor legal merit, while they are narrow in spirit and reckless in statement. It were indeed better for the Third District that the Chief Justice, whose hard common sense is proverbial, were here, and we are only reconciled to his absence by the reflection which attends Judge Allyn's wish for his presence, "that he is probably better subserving the interest of our new community by presenting its imperious necessities to the general government, while we are unrepresented in Congress."

THE MOHAVE ROAD.

Captain John Moss has written the following letter to the Governor, which we are permitted to print as of general interest. We will add that Mr. Dukes, who reached here to-day, reports that he met the Yavapi chief upon the road, and was assured by him that he and his people would abide by their agreement with Capt. Moss:

WILLOW GROVE, ARIZONA,
Sept. 28, 1864.

To His Excellency John N. Goodwin, Governor of Arizona.

SIR—I beg leave to submit to your favorable notice that the hostile Indians who have for some time past infested the road between this spot and the vicinity of Prescott, are no longer there. They have been driven off by the exertions of the Yavapis, on whose ground they have been trespassing. Instead of going directly through the country, as was my first intention, I visited the camps of the different chiefs of that tribe (Yavapis) and with them formed the following treaty: They bind themselves to keep the roads and trails used by the Americans in passing through their country clear of all hostile Indians, these roads comprising those from Fort Mohave, Williams' Fort and La Paz. They will range as far east as Kertin's valley, said valley being situated about four miles to the eastward of Mint valley, they will camp along the road in different places, and will assist the Americans in the recovery of strayed or stolen animals. The Americans on their part to allow them to pass unmolested and free from insult. They also promise to join the Americans in any expedition against the hostile Indians eastward, when such assistance is required. This tribe claim the ground on which Prescott now stands, but they will not enter therein. I have spoken to them about the settlement of Williamson's valley, and they have signified their assent. From the above you will observe that the only danger to travellers is to the eastward and the immediate vicinity of your settlement. I beg leave to submit to your favorable notice and that of other interested citizens the above, hoping that it may prove satisfactory. In doing so I remain very respectfully, yours truly,

JOHN MOSS.

No DANGER.—There is a strange apprehension among some of our people that the Legislature is likely to pass a mining-law calculated to rob the miner of his rights. Nothing could be more absurd. In the first place a majority of the members of both houses are practical miners, familiar with the condition of the country, and its necessities, and anxious for the best means of opening and working their mines. Whatever law is passed, the people may be assured that it will infringe upon no man's rights, and that its provisions will be alike liberal and sensible.